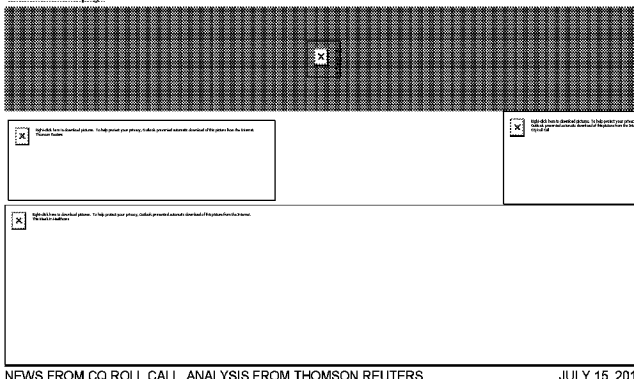


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By Jane Norman, CQ HealthBeat Associate Editor  
July 12, 2011

Congressional Budget Office Director Douglas Elmendorf painted a gloomy scenario of health costs steadily crawling upward, offering business leaders six specific possibilities for reductions. At the top of his list was rolling back the Medicaid expansion and insurance subsidies mandated in the healthcare law.

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Jean Chenoweth  
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Ray Fabius, William D. Marder and Jean Chenoweth of Thomson Reuters [answer questions](#) from Dena Bunis, CQ HealthBeat Managing Editor.

## Obama administration touts flexibility in proposed exchange regulation

By John Reichard, Jane Norman and Rebecca Adams, CQ HealthBeat  
July 11, 2011

Health and Human Services officials set the stage for the crucially important final phase of the healthcare law's implementation with the unveiling on Monday of two proposed exchange regulations that they say would provide states with considerable flexibility in developing their new insurance marketplaces.

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By Rebecca Adams, CQ HealthBeat Associate Editor  
July 11, 2011

When a new program to cover people with pre-existing conditions launched last July, lawmakers and state officials had one central question: How long will the USD 5 billion set aside for it last? One year later, federal officials still haven't answered that question — and won't say how much of the money has been spent so far.

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By Rebecca Adams, CQ HealthBeat Associate Editor  
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